

INFORMATION REPORT

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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

COUNTRY Siam-Indochina

DATE DISTR. 12 APR 1948

SUBJECT Influence of Kom (Nai Savat Viset Nukol)
over Vietnamese in Bangkok

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SUPPLEMENT TO
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1.

at Wat Yuan in Bangkok, there was a meeting of the Vietnamese National Welfare Association of Women, to celebrate Woman's Day. This meeting was, in most respects, a repetition of the ordinary meetings of National Welfare Associations, but was marked by a curious and little-noticed incident. Miss Ly Thi Nguyen Anh, a young Cochinchinese girl about 23 years old, who is a Can Bo ("agent" or "cadre") of Women, was addressing the meeting and outlining the history of the struggle of women throughout the world for emancipation. In particular, she praised the part played by American women.

2.

As she was praising the role of American women, she suddenly hesitated, began to speak in a halting manner, and then sat down. The cause of this sudden confusion was apparently a glance from Kom, Acting Chief of the Bangkok Tong Bo, who was sitting in the front rank of the audience. Kom himself then addressed the meeting approximately as follows: "We do not wish to contradict our young comrade, but we feel it is necessary to make a correction. It is true that in former days, American women played an important part in the struggle for emancipation and were truly revolutionary and progressive. But today the situation has changed. American womanhood is totally reactionary. America, instead of advancing, has gone backward."

25X1X

Note: This incident is of importance in illustrating: (1) The current Viet Minh doctrine vis-a-vis the United States, and (2) The tight grip maintained by Kom over the local Can Bo.)

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